

## PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

DATE: November 1, 2006

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:36 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 6:21 p.m.

### ATTENDANCE

#### Attending Members

Mary Moriarty Adams, Chair  
Vernon Brown  
Sherron Franklin  
William Oliver  
Lincoln Plowman  
Scott Schneider

#### Absent Members

Greg Bowes  
Lynn McWhirter

### AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 562, 2006 - appropriates \$1,643,385 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion County Prosecutor (State and Federal Grants Fund) to fund child interviewers at the Child Advocacy Center, the Adult Protective Services Unit, 8 victim advocate positions for various divisions in the Prosecutor's Office, 5 teams of local law enforcement officers from six departments, overtime patrols to combat impaired driving and increase seatbelt usage, and the Adult Victim Services Assistance Program (Breaking Free), funded through various federal grants

"Do Pass as Amended"

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 563, 2006 - approves an increase of \$99,045 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion County Clerk (State and Federal Grants Fund) to appropriate a pass through grant from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute to fund the Protective Order Pro Bono Project, which provides legal assistance to low-income victims of domestic abuse

"Do Pass"

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 564, 2006 - approves an increase of \$48,178 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion Superior Court (State and Federal Grants Fund) to fund the Child Advocates Expansion Project for GAL/CASA representation of children in abuse/neglect cases referred by the Marion Superior Court

"Do Pass"

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 565, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$30,104 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion Superior Court (State and Federal Grants Fund) to allow for expenditure of previously approved grants including JABIG 7, Community Court and Juvenile Drug Treatment Court

“Do Pass”

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 566, 2006 - approves an increase of \$24,500 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion Superior Court (State and Federal Grants Fund) to fund a pilot program titled "Beyond Translation" which allows the court to communicate with the Hispanic population the importance of complying with court orders, including probation and payment of fines and costs

“Do Pass”

Vote: 4-2

PROPOSAL NO. 567, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$95,000 in the 2006 Budget of the Forensics Services Agency (County General Fund) to purchase three microscopes and other lab equipment for new employees hired to comply with order of the Marion Superior Court

“Do Pass”

Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 568, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$9,450 in the 2006 Budget of the Department of Public Safety, Emergency Management Planning Division (Consolidated County Fund) to cover projected deficits for paying telephone and fleet maintenance charges.

“Do Pass”

Vote: 5-0

## PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee of the City-County Council met on Wednesday, November 1, 2006. Chair Mary Moriarty Adams called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. with the following members present: Vernon Brown, Sherron Franklin, William Oliver, Lincoln Plowman and Scott Schneider. Absent were Greg Bowes and Lynn McWhirter.

PROPOSAL NO. 562, 2006 - appropriates \$1,643,385 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion County Prosecutor (State and Federal Grants Fund) to fund child interviewers at the Child Advocacy Center, the Adult Protective Services Unit, 8 victim advocate positions for various divisions in the Prosecutor's Office, 5 teams of local law enforcement officers from six departments, overtime patrols to combat impaired driving and increase seatbelt usage, and the Adult Victim Services Assistance Program (Breaking Free), funded through various federal grants

Lisa Bentley, Chief of Operations, Prosecutor's Office, presented the committee with an amendment due to a change in the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) procedure that no longer requires the Prosecutor's Office to be a pass through entity for non-profit organizations. She went on to explained the other change as a reduction in the Traffic Safety Partnership due to ICJI making small cuts in various counties (Exhibit A, attached).

Councillor Brown moved, seconded by Councillor Oliver to amend Proposal No. 562, 2006 per Exhibit A. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Ms. Bentley said all the programs are up for renewal and funded at the same level as last year. She went on to give a brief description of each program (found in the body of Proposal No. 562, 2006)

Don Bickel said the DUI Indiana grant of \$350,000 involves seven law enforcement agencies in Marion County doing enforcement on this particular grant. In addition they are seeking another grant with Operation Pull Over (OPO), which involves DUI check points, seat belt enforcements, etc.

Councillor Brown asked how many arrests were made with the DUI enforcement. Mr. Bickel said there were over 2,100 DUI arrests from January 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30, 2006. He said 315 of those arrested were repeat offenders.

Councillor Oliver asked how Marion County compares to other counties with the use of seat belts. Mr. Bickel said Marion County has attained 90% in their use of seat belts in passenger vehicles. He said the national average on seat belts is 84%.

Councillor Schneider asked what the breakdown of dollars is in the OPO grant. Mr. Bickel said they allow the department to make the decision on how the funds given are used in their enforcement programs.

Chair Moriarty Adams asked how many child interviewers would be funded through the grant. Ms. Bentley stated two and a half interviewers would be funded.

Jeff Seidenstein, Office of Finance and Management, Budget Manager, stated another amendment is needed to remove the Family Service Association – “Break Free” language under Section 1 of Proposal No. 562, 2006 due to the removal of the funds in the first amendment.

Councillor Schneider moved, seconded by Councillor Franklin to Strike “Family Service Association – “Break Free”” language from Proposal No. 562, 2006. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Councillor Schneider stated that he will be supporting this proposal; however, he is against any funding that is used for seat belt enforcements, specifically, in light of the increase in the homicide rate.

Councillor Brown moved, seconded by Councillor Franklin to send Proposal No. 562, 2006 to the full Council with a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 563, 2006 - approves an increase of \$99,045 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion County Clerk (State and Federal Grants Fund) to appropriate a pass through grant from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute to fund the Protective Order Pro Bono Project, which provides legal assistance to low-income victims of domestic abuse

Doris Ann Sadler, Marion County Clerk, said the Clerk’s office serves as a pass through agency for three employees who work at the Protective Order office to assist low-income victims and ensure they fill out the proper paper work.

Councillor Schneider moved, seconded by Councillor Plowman to send Proposal No. 563, 2006 to the full Council with a “Do Pass” recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Chair Moriarty Adams asked for consent to hear Proposal Nos. 564-566, 2006 together. Consent was given.

PROPOSAL NO. 564, 2006 - approves an increase of \$48,178 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion Superior Court (State and Federal Grants Fund) to fund the Child Advocates Expansion Project for GAL/CASA representation of children in abuse/neglect cases referred by the Marion Superior Court

Sue Patterson, Director of Finances for the Court Services Agency, explained and read Proposal No. 564, 2006 per Exhibit B (attached).

Chair Moriarty Adams asked what CASA stands for. Ms. Patterson said Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA).

PROPOSAL NO. 565, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$30,104 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion Superior Court (State and Federal Grants Fund) to allow for expenditure of previously approved grants including JABIG 7, Community Court and Juvenile Drug Treatment Court

Ms. Patterson read and explained Proposal No. 565, 2006 per Exhibit B (attached) and clarified that in the JABIG grant the employee they had was actually an Indianapolis Police Department (IPD) employee and the \$14,400 will be used to pay out IPD's share of the grant.

PROPOSAL NO. 566, 2006 - approves an increase of \$24,500 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion Superior Court (State and Federal Grants Fund) to fund a pilot program titled "Beyond Translation" which allows the court to communicate with the Hispanic population the importance of complying with court orders, including probation and payment of fines and costs

Ms. Patterson read and explained Proposal No. 566, 2006 per Exhibit B (attached) and said this grant will help the Hispanic population comply and understand court orders.

Councillor Oliver asked if special treatment has been given if someone does not understand the court order. Ms. Patterson replied in the negative and said this proposal helps to ensure that when the Hispanic population leaves the court they understand the material and orders that were given.

Councillor Plowman stated that he does not understand why the program is necessary when regardless of where the Hispanic population lives the court system and regulations are similar. Ms. Patterson said this program will go beyond the interpreters in the court room and will assist in the understanding of the importance of complying with a court order.

Councillor Schneider asked how many court interpreters there are. Ms. Patterson said currently there are three Spanish interpreters on the court staff and additional interpreters are brought in as needed. Councillor Schneider asked if this proposal adds additional interpreters. Ms. Patterson replied in the negative and said this is a communication program with the Hispanic community and an educational program for the courts.

Councillor Schneider asked to take Proposal No. 566, 2006 separately. Consent was given.

Councillor Franklin asked if there is a suggestion to use this grant money for something else. Councillor Schneider stated his problem with the grant is that it does not add any interpreters or translators and he is failing to see the need for this program.

Councillor Franklin asked what happens to the grant money if this proposal does not pass. Ms. Patterson said the money will go back to ICJI and can be used for another program.

Councillor Brown asked for clarification on the purpose of this proposal. Ms. Patterson said this communication program will assist those who have low educational levels or are trying to adjust to cultural differences to understand the material that is brought before them. Ms. Patterson said the court feels passionate about this program to help re-enforce what is done with the translation in the court room.

Councillor Brown moved, seconded by Councillor Oliver to send Proposal Nos. 564 and 565, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Councillor Brown moved, seconded by Councillor Oliver to send Proposal No. 566, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 4-2, with Councillors Plowman and Schneider casting the negative vote.

PROPOSAL NO. 567, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$95,000 in the 2006 Budget of the Forensics Services Agency (County General Fund) to purchase three microscopes and other lab equipment for new employees hired to comply with order of the Marion Superior Court

Larry Schultz, Forensic Operations Manager, said the reason for this transfer is due to the court order to hire additional firearm examiners with proper equipment. He said the money will be moved from Character 01 to offset the purchase of the equipment. The additional money in Character 01 stems from the lack of being able to hire qualified scientists.

Councillor Franklin asked if the agency is making progress in hiring and retaining employees. Mr. Schultz said steps and procedures have begun; however, they are not completed. He said a specialized pay scale is currently being developed to eliminate this problem.

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Chair Moriarty Adams asked if the department has a sufficient amount of staff to conduct daily business. Mr. Schultz replied in the affirmative.

Councillor Schneider moved, seconded by Councillor Franklin to send Proposal No. 567, 2006 to the full Council with a “Do Pass” recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 568, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$9,450 in the 2006 Budget of the Department of Public Safety, Emergency Management Planning Division (Consolidated County Fund) to cover projected deficits for paying telephone and fleet maintenance charges.

John Ball, Director of the Emergency Management Planning Division, said they are anticipating a shortfall of \$9,450 in Character 03 resulting from fleet and fuel costs. However there is a surplus in Character 04 that they do not anticipate spending by the end of the year that can relieve the shortfall in Character 03 to complete the remainder of the year.

Councillor Franklin moved, seconded by Councillor Schneider to send Proposal No. 568, 2006 to the full Council with a “Do Pass” recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

CONCLUSION

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Moriarty Adams, Chair  
Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee

MMA/as

